

Serial No. 09/780,957  
Atty. Doc. No. 01P7460US

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1, 3, 5, and 8 without prejudice. Please amend claims 4, 7, and 10 as follows:

4. (Amended) A power generator system comprising:

a power generator; and

an exciter for excitation of said power generator, the exciter including a diode wheel, the diode wheel having a rotating support structure, a plurality of diodes mounted to the structure, and a plurality of a diode support and rupture containment devices each positioned adjacent a respective one of the plurality of diodes to support the diode and contain the diode within the confines thereof in the event the diode ruptures, each diode support and rupture containment device including a pair of spaced-apart insulative containment members with the respective diode positioned therebetween;

wherein the diode wheel includes a plurality of metal-electric connection regions each having one of the diodes connected thereto, wherein each of the plurality of diodes includes a casing formed of an insulating material, and wherein at least one of the pair of containment members is positioned adjacent the metal-electric connection region having the diode connected thereto and extends to the casing of the diode; and

wherein each of the pair of containment members has a substantially annular shape to thereby define an insulative disc, and wherein each of the insulative discs are pivotally connected to the diode wheel for ease of access to the diode.

7. (Twice Amended) An exciter for a power generation system, the exciter comprising:  
a rotating support structure;

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a diode mounted to the structure; and

a diode support and rupture containment device positioned to support the diode and contain the diode within the confines thereof in the event the diode ruptures, the diode support and rupture containment device including a pair of spaced-apart insulative containment members arranged to have a diode positioned therebetween, the diode including an insulative casing, each of the pair of insulative containment members positioned to extend from a metal-electric connection region when the diode is connected to a conducting member to the insulative casing of the diode;

wherein each of the pair of containment members has a substantially annular shape to thereby define an insulative disc.

10. (Twice Amended) A diode support and rupture containment device for a diode of a power generation system, the device comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart insulative containment members arranged to have a diode positioned therebetween, the diode including an insulative casing, each of the pair of insulative containment members positioned to extend from a metal-electric connection region when the diode is connected to a conducting member to the insulative casing of the diode;

wherein each of the pair of containment members has a substantially annular shape to thereby define an insulative disc.